CPS Middle Grades Project

2010-2011

Presented to Cambridge School Committee
April 5, 2010.

Long-term Issues

- adjusted timeline at May 4 School Committee meeting
- work with Citywide School Council

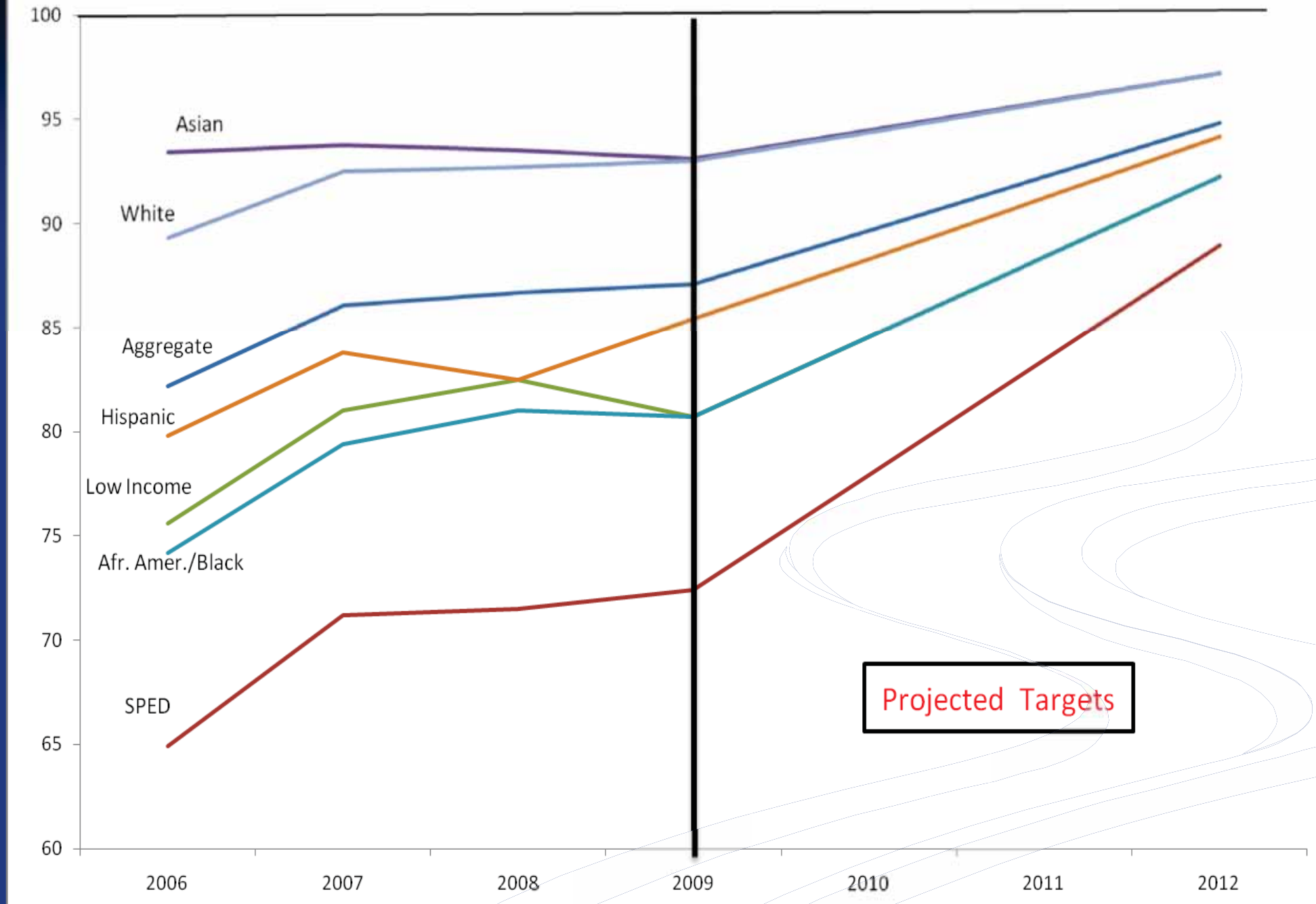
Short-term Action Plan

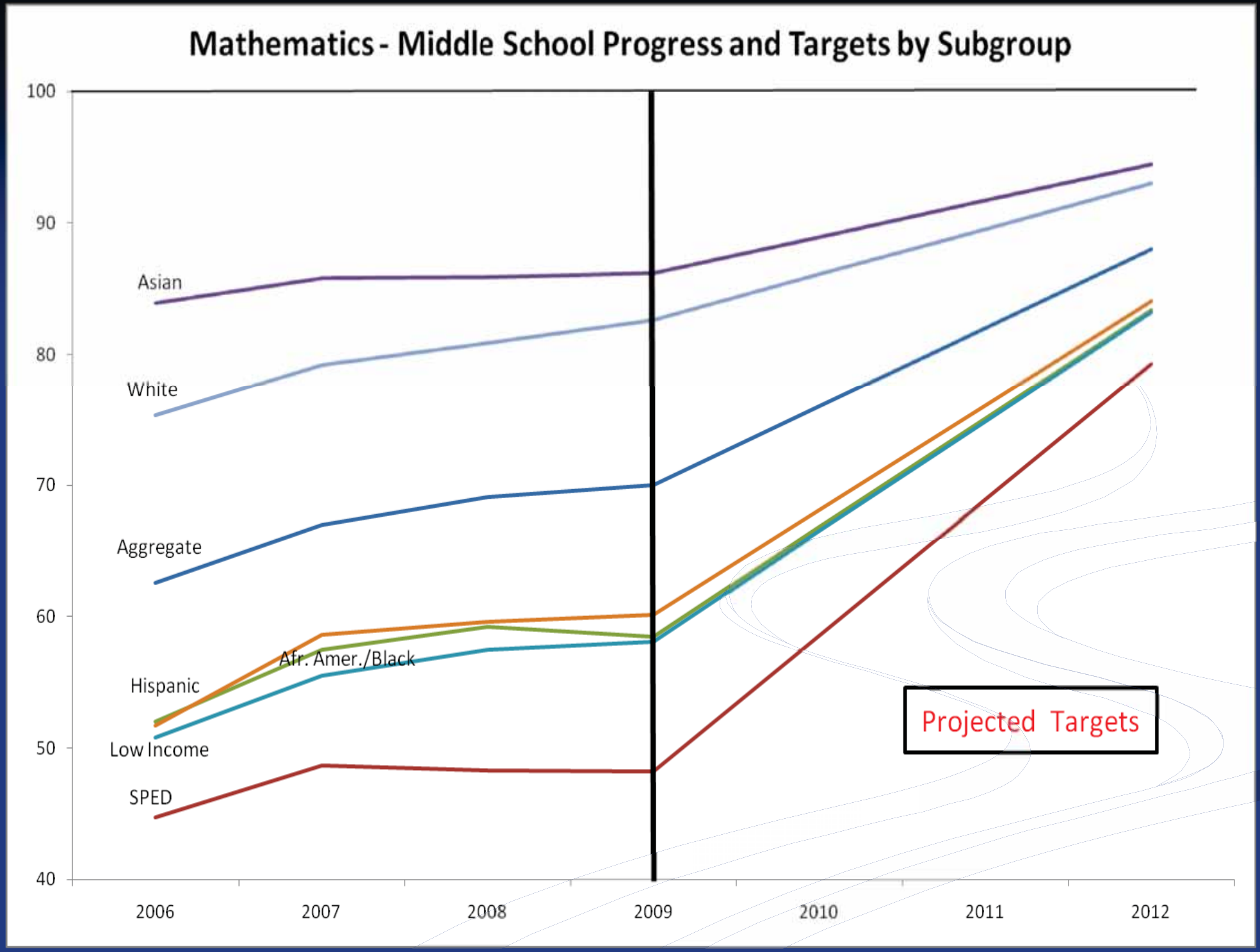
1. Closing the Achievement Gaps
2. Use of Student Data
3. Collaboration for Teachers, Coaches, and Administrators
4. Aligned Coherent Curriculum
5. Evaluation of the Intensive Studies Program
6. Out-of-School-Time (OST) Partnerships Coordination

Closing the Achievement Gaps

- Differentiated Instruction training for Administrators, Teachers and Coaches

ELA - Middle School Progress and Targets by Subgroup




Mathematics - Middle School Progress and Targets by Subgroup
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
Asian
White
Aggregate
Afr. Amer./Black
Hispanic
Low Income
SPED
Projected Targets

Use of Student Data

- Expectations - use of data
- Student Growth Percentile (SGP) Data
- Summer Institute

  Administrators & Coaches
- Differentiated Instruction
- Teachers' Data Toolkit

Collaboration for Teachers, Coaches & Administrators

Teacher and Coach Collaboration

- Develop common expectations & benchmarks
- Explore effective teaching practices
- Visit middle school classrooms across the district
- Share effective strategies for Special Needs and Second Language Learners

Collaboration for Teachers, Coaches & Administrators

Teacher and Coach Collaboration

- Plan lessons collaboratively
- Support students whom they have in common
- Use data to improve instruction
- Write and refine curriculum and assessments

Collaboration for Teachers, Coaches & Administrators

Administrators' Collaboration

- Continuation and expansion of Cambridge Leadership Network to include curriculum coordinators, assistant principals and deans of students

Aligned Coherent Curriculum

- Horizontal alignment across the schools
- Vertical alignment from 8th to 9th grade

Evaluate the Intensive Studies Program

District will assess the:

- Curriculum
- Assessment
- Overall effectiveness

  for meeting the needs of advanced learners

Out-of- School Time Partnerships Coordination

- Continue to grow summer transition programs
- Include OST providers in CPS anti-bullying training
- Data collaboration with DHSP with YARDS system
- Strengthen 3 existing middle school pilots at Peabody/ Gately, Kennedy-Longfellow/ East End House and King Open/ Frisoli
- Establish Middle School Success Network

Implementation Timeline

- Summer Institute
- August Kick-off for Teachers
- Middle grade meetings
- Vertical Teaming
- Leadership Network
- Middle School Success Network